

STATE OF IDAHO

Fish and Game Department  
Joseph C. Greeley, Director

Quarterly Project Progress Report

Clearwater River Development of  
Spring Chinook Stocks

Project No. 028180313

Contract No. NA208-00-22 (N) 72

Period Covered: July 1, 1972 to September 30, 1972

Columbia River Fisheries Development Program

October, 1972

## Clearwater River Development of Spring Chinook Stocks

### ABSTRACT:

Indian Creek, Red River, and Crooked River incubation channels were cleaned during the quarter. A total of 5,774,902 eyed chinook eggs from adults captured at the Rapid River Hatchery were planted in the channels during the quarter.

### REPORT OF PROGRESS:

Project Phase A: Preparing the hatching channels and obtaining eyed eggs.

#### Preparing the Hatching Channels

Both Red River channels and one channel at Crooked River were excavated of sand and gravel. New, clean gravel was used to replace the sanded sections. The remaining channel at Crooked River and the Indian Creek channel were cleaned by using the channel rake. A reverse flow entrance was created at the Red River channel by placing a gabion at the channel headgate. The problem of channel siltation will be reduced by this type of flow. A gabion was also placed across the dike at Crooked River. The dike was eroded during previous spring runoffs and the gabion should minimize erosion in the future.

#### Obtaining Eyed Eggs

Spring chinook salmon returning to Rapid River Hatchery were trapped and held for egg taking. A portion of the green eggs taken were shipped to Sweetwater eyeing station.

The capacity of the Sweetwater eyeing station was increased from 10 stacks of incubators to 32 stacks. Twelve of the stacks were borrowed from the Pahsimeroi Hatchery and 10 from the Oxbow Hatchery. A total of 4,481,310 eggs were eyed at Sweetwater eyeing station from about 5,250,000 green eggs received from Rapid River. This represents an eye up of 85 percent.

Project Phase B: Planting eyed eggs.

A total of 5,774,902 eyed chinook eggs were planted in three incubation channels during the quarter (Table 1). Indian Creek received 2,956,179 eggs, Red River 1,293,592 eggs, and Crooked River 1,525,131 eggs. All egg plants are designated in this report although some took place in early October.

Table 1. Eyed chinook egg plants to Clearwater drainage incubation channels, 1972.

Date	Incubation Channel	Eyed Eggs	Eyeing Station
9/26	Indian Creek	991,929	Sweetwater
9/29	Indian Creek	1,005,211	Sweetwater
10/3	Indian Creek	959,039	Sweetwater
9/25	Crooked River	766,591	Sweetwater
10/2	Indian Creek	758,540	Sweetwater
9/21	Red River	624,292	Rapid River
10/11	Red River	669,300	Rapid River
TOTAL		5,774,902	

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